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<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

In re United States Patent Application of: Docket No.: 4185-101-CIP Conf. No.: Applicants: GRADY, Jeff 9122 Application No.: 10/615,108 Art Unit: 2618 Date Filed: July 8, 2003 Examiner: Thuan T. Nguyen Title: FM TRANSMITTER AND Customer No.: **POWER** 23448 SUPPLY/CHARGING ASSEMBLY FOR MP3

APPLICANT'S COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE IN AUGUST 23, 2007 NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IN U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/615,108

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The Notice of Allowability mailed on August 23, 2007 in the above-identified patent application contained an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance at page 3 thereof. Applicant provides the following comments on such statement.

While Applicant agrees with the examiner that the prior art of record "fails to either alone or [in combination] teach or suggest each and every feature of the present invention," the statement of reasons for allowance failed to fully characterize the claimed subject matter, which, as recited in the independent claims, includes:

1. An FM transmitter and power supply/charging assembly electrically coupleable with an MP3 player, said assembly comprising a modular docking

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Conf. No.:

23448

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Applicants:

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re United States Patent Application of:

Docket No.: 4185-101-CIP

Application No.: 10/615,108 Art Unit: 2618

Date Filed: July 8, 2003 Examiner: Thuan T. Nguyen

Title: FM TRANSMITTER AND Customer No.:

GRADY, Jeff

POWER

SUPPLY/CHARGING ASSEMBLY FOR MP3

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION CERTIFICATE ATTN: Examiner Thuan T. Nguyen Fax No. (571) 273-2885

I hereby certify that this document is being filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, via facsimile transmission, addressed to Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date specified below, and transmitted to United States Patent and Trademark Office facsimile transmission number (571) 273-2885.

Number of Pages

Nate Pope

August 29, 2007

Date

SUBMISSION OF ISSUE FEE AND APPLICANT'S COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE IN U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/615,108

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is the completed Issue Fee Transmittal in response to the Notice of Allowance dated

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August 23, 2007 in the above-identified patent application. Applicant notes that the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due mailed on August 23, 2007 accurately reflects previous payment of \$1,400, but that such Notice of Allowance erroneously indicates "Total Fee(s) Due" of \$1,400.

Applicant hereby requests that, pursuant to MPEP 1306, the issue fee previously paid on June 1, 2007 be applied to the issue fee currently due in the present application.

Further enclosed is Applicant's Comments on Statement for Reasons for Allowance of the present application.

It is believed that no additional fees are due and payable to obtain issuance of the instant application. To the extent that Applicant is incorrect in this understanding, however, the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies to Deposit Account Number 08-3284 of Intellectual Property/Technology Law. Issuance of a patent on the present application without delay is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent K. Gustafson

Reg. No. 46,182 Attorney for Applicants

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY/ TECHNOLOGY LAW Phone: (919) 419-9350 Fax: (919) 419-9354 Attorney File No.: 4185-101-CIP

Enclosures:

Issue Fee Transmittal [1 pg.]

Applicant's Comments on Statement of Notice of Allowance [3 pgs.]

The USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment of fees properly payable for this document to Deposit Account No. 08-3284

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unit having a main body portion with a docking cavity therein, with retention means for retaining the MP3 player in position in the cavity, wherein the main body portion contains said FM transmitter and power/charging circuitry, with coupling means in the docking cavity for connecting the MP3 player with the FM transmitter and power/charging circuitry, to accommodate FM transmission by said FM transmitter of audio content when played by said MP3 player in the docking cavity of the modular docking unit, and with means for transmitting electrical power through said modular docking unit and said power/charging circuitry therein, for charging of a battery of the MP3 player and/or powering of the MP3 player.

31. A radio frequency transmitter and power supply/charging assembly electrically coupleable with an MP3 player, said assembly comprising:

a main body portion defining a cavity for receiving the MP3 player, and having an associated radio frequency transmitter and power/charging circuitry;

coupling means disposed in the cavity for connecting the MP3 player with the radio frequency transmitter and power/charging circuitry when the MP3 player is received by the cavity, to accommodate radio frequency transmission by said radio frequency transmitter of audio content when played by said MP3 player; and

means for transmitting electrical power through said power/charging circuitry and said coupling means, for charging of a battery of the MP3 player and/or powering of the MP3 player.

- 36. An FM transmitter and power supply/charging assembly electrically coupleable with an MP3 player, said assembly comprising an FM transmitter and power/charging circuitry, a docking unit defining a docking cavity therein for receiving an MP3 player, and an electrical coupling disposed in the docking cavity and electrically coupleable with the MP3 player when the MP3 player is received by the docking cavity, wherein the docking unit is constructed and arranged for connecting the MP3 player with said FM transmitter and power/charging circuitry, to accommodate FM transmission by said FM transmitter of audio content when played by said MP3 player in the docking cavity of the docking unit, and with means for transmitting electrical power through said power/charging circuitry, for charging of a battery of the MP3 player and/or powering of the MP3 player.
- 37. An FM transmitter and power supply/charging assembly electrically coupleable with an MP3 player, said assembly comprising an FM transmitter and power/charging circuitry, a docking unit defining a docking cavity therein for receiving an MP3 player, and an electrical coupling disposed in the docking cavity and electrically coupleable with the MP3 player when the MP3 player is received by the docking cavity, wherein the docking unit is constructed and arranged for connecting the MP3 player with said FM transmitter and power/charging circuitry, to accommodate FM transmission by said FM transmitter of audio content when played by said MP3 player in the docking cavity of the docking unit, and with means for transmitting electrical power

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through said power/charging circuitry, for charging of a battery of the MP3 player and/or powering of the MP3 player.

38. An FM transmitter and power supply/charging assembly electrically coupleable with an MP3 player, said assembly comprising:

a body adapted to receive the MP3 player;

an electrical coupling affixed to the body to engage the MP3 player when the MP3 player is received by the body;

an FM transmitter connectable with said MP3 player for FM transmission of audio content played by said MP3 player; and

power/charging circuitry connectable with said MP3 player for transmission of electrical power therethrough to charge and/or power the MP3 player.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the art of record, whether alone or in combination, fails to teach each and every feature of the foregoing independent claims.

The Examiner further stated that "Chang reads on claims 39-40 and 76-102, [but] the cancellation of these claims renders the rejection of [sic - based on] Chang ... moot." August 23, 2007 Notice of Allowability, page 3. Applicant does NOT concede that the Chang reference reads on cancelled claims 39-40 and 76-102, but as such claims have been cancelled, suggests that detailed comparison of Chang to such claims is not germane to the present application. Applicant notes that subject matter corresponding to cancelled claims 39-40 and 76-102 is currently pending in the claims of U.S. Patent Application No. 11/615,758, such that any comparison of Chang to the indicated subject matter should be made on the record of that application.

Respectfully submitted,

Vincent K. Gustafson

Reg. No. 46,182

Attorney for Applicants

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